

Spring Is Here! Let Everybody Clean Up.

HELL!!

A Highly Interesting Article From the Pen of a Recognized Genius In Oratory.

An Unanswerable Conclusion Reached By This Splendid Young Thinker.

(By VERMILLION A. D. MURRAY, JR., Esq., 1300 Woodland Ave., City.)

I have carefully noted with considerable interest the various discussions of late concerning HELL. And with everything else considered this subject has occupied my most serious attention for some time. Chiefly among the discussions of this subject was a sermon delivered recently (I was informed) by a certain preacher, who declared that Hell is a place of eternal torment—the destination of all sinners. There is nothing that astonishes me more than to hear a preacher in the light and moral development of this day preach this old Papal doctrine. Oh, what a great sermon that was! Equally astonishing, is the belief that Hell is a myth; or that it is the life we live on earth.

However limited is the knowledge of those who have commented upon the subject (HELL) I am persuaded and must admit with shame, that the doctrines subscribed to by all respecting Hell are most absurd, barbarous and unjust.

The very idea of a man making such a public declaration that hell is a lake of fire and brimstone. The advocate of such a doctrine may search the Bible from Genesis to Revelations but he will find absolutely nothing that will offer the slightest support to the doctrine that there is literally a burning hell or that eternal torment is the penalty for sin. Just a little reason itself will not support such a misleading doctrine.

If I was an ordained minister of the Gospel, I certainly would not want to be recognized as such if I had to poison the minds of my flock and the people in general with this doctrine of the dark ages. That V. A. D. MURRAY, JR. there, exists a "hot" or a "burning hell" is misleading to the extreme. What a horrible doctrine! Where is the authority for such a fiendish doctrine? I shall very easily make the reply. The various church creeds and confessions and hymn books and theological treatises are its only supports.

Now then, must we deliberately reject the holy and inspired word of God and accept the unfounded doctrines of the hymn-book and theological teachers? No man with any degree of Biblical intelligence would, who is zealous for the truth of God's word. As a Bible student, who has given this important subject a most profound and an elaborate study, I shall briefly present in detailed facts, the Scriptural and only satisfactory answer to the question. And if there is anyone desiring to challenge me upon the subject in an open debate on by press correspondence it is immaterial whether he be authorized Doctor of Divinity or one of the minds gifted beyond ordinary nature; I shall consider it a highly appreciated privilege to meet him.

I repeat that no man with intelligent reason would for a moment contend that Hell is an abode of the wicked—a place of eternal torment as is commonly believed by many. It is an established fact that the Bible does not teach such a doctrine.

If the penalty against us had been eternal torment our redemption from it would have cost our Lord that price. He would have been obliged to suffer eternal torment the just for unjust. But eternal torment was not the penalty; hence Jesus did not pay that penalty for us. Death was the penalty and hence "Christ died for our sins". By the grace of God he tasted death for every man. It can be very easily noted, that the Bible explicitly declares in simple language that—The wages of sin is death—not eternal torment. Why then should we assume that eternal torment is the wages of original sin when the Scriptures do not teach it? Oh how erroneous and cruel has been the teaching of man. How unreasonable is his point of view. It should be understood, that the doctrine of everlasting torment was engrafted upon the doctrines of the Christian Church during the period of the Apostasy, the great falling away which culminated in Papacy. Men and women, according to sacred history, were often slaughtered for thinking contrary to the teachings of Papacy. At this age of the world's history the Sun of a Gospel truth was obscure; the word of God had fallen into disuse and was prohibited to be read by any but the clergy. Christians were compelled to deny their faith and their beliefs.

At this particular time, as it is now, the doctrine of eternal torment was undoubtedly introduced by Papacy terrorized thousands but not at heart converted. It swelled her numbers and her wealth, diluted what little truth was held before and mingled it with their unholiness and errors, so that to meet the changed conditions

of things the "Clergy" found it needful to add error to error, etc., not taught in the Scriptures and useless to the truly converted whom the truth controls.

Having briefly endeavored to parade before your minds the origin and general influence of this "doctrine of devils" this blasphemy against the great God, hatched in the "dark ages" when a crafty priesthood taught that it is right to do evil that good may result, why not begin to lay aside all theories and human opinions and come to the word of God the only authority of the subject?

But I am delighted to know after all, that under the increasing light of our day, and the consequent emancipation of reason, belief in this horrible doctrine of the dark ages is fast dying out.

Returning now in conclusion to the object of my subject, I shall in a few chosen words confine myself to a specific analysis and use of the word Hell. The word "hell" I would have you understand, is simply an English word

sometimes selected by the translators of the English Bible to express precisely the sense of the Hebrew word Sheol and the Greek words Hades, tartarus and gehenna—sometimes rendered "grave" and "pit". And any educated minister knows that. But he is aware of the fact that by uttering a word for unpopular truth; he will risk the loss of his stipend and his reputation for being "established" in the bag of error is considered a bold man, even though he voices the Gospel truth.

The word "Hell" in old English usage before Papal Theologians picked it up and gave it a new and special significance to suit their own purposes, simply meant as I have aforesaid to conceal, to hide, to cover; hence the concealed, hidden or covered place. And it does not mean a lake of fire and brimstone, nor anything at all resembling that thought; not in the slightest degree. And, as God who art in Heaven; who holds the wrath of life and death, I do believe, that if a man who has claimed the divine au-

thority to preach, should continue to insist on poisoning the minds of the people with this doctrine of the dark ages, he deserves nothing more or less than ridicule from a howling and rebellious mob.

If professed Christians would be honest with themselves and true to God they would soon learn that "their fear toward God is taught by precepts of men."

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH NOTES

The musical event of the season will be the presentation of Oratoria the seven last words of Christ by the Vested Choir of the church, April 9.

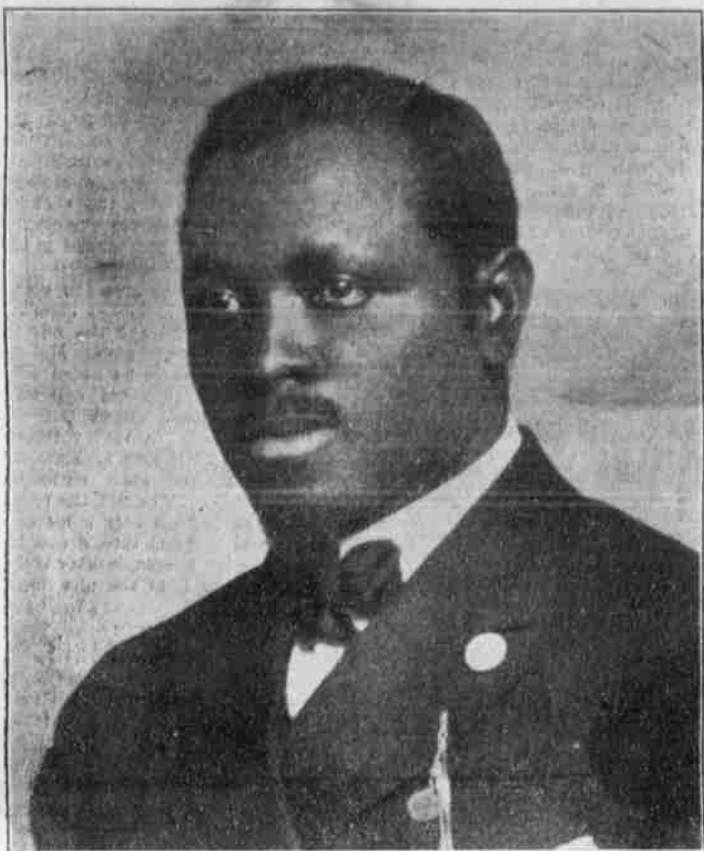
Miss Todd, teacher of Literature at Lincoln High School organized a Social Betterment Society in the Church which is attended by a large crowd each week.

There was a very large audience out last Sunday morning and excellent services were rendered. The

Sunday School was exceedingly large—attended as well as the B. Y. P. U. Mrs. L. J. Bacote, directress of the choir, was agreeably surprised by the choir presenting her with a gold Lavalliere with a coral pendant.

ALLEN CHAPEL NOTES.

An audience taxing the capacity of Allen Chapel and the extension attended the morning services last Sunday. Sunday was also Quarterly Meeting day and at 3:00 o'clock the Rev. F. D. Wells the "thunderbolt" of Bethel church, 24th and Flora streets, preached a glorious and soul-stirring sermon. There were seven additions to the church during the day. The collections in all departments were exceedingly good. The officers issued a bulletin which is expected to do away with the reading of innumerable notices. The arrangements for the Mock Conference are progressing nicely and all are looking forward to the coming of the brilliant Dr. Sampson Brooks of St. Paul, St. Louis, March 30th.



DR. THOS. A. FLETCHER.

One of the most skillful and accomplished young physicians and surgeons of Greater Kansas City, who comes from a distinguished family in the British West Indies.

Perhaps there is no young physician in this city who is attracting more attention or has been more successful in his chosen profession than has the subject of this sketch, Dr. Thomas A. Fletcher. Of athletic build, pleasing personality, and splendid intellectual force, he would attract attention in any group as a man of more than ordinary attainments and ability. Like a number of our most successful and aggressive professional and business men Dr. Fletcher is a native of the British West Indies, born in the Island of Grenada. He comes from a family of druggists who were very successful in their line of business. After obtaining a collegiate training at home, he came to the United States and entered the medical department of Howard University at Washington, D. C., where his preliminary training in the drug business aided him in setting for his class "a hot pace", as indicated in the results of his first examination where he made the highest average in a class of 150 students, making no less than 95 in any subject during his first term. This high record was maintained throughout his entire medical course and he was graduated as one of the best equipped theoretically and practically members of his class. Practically because he performed valuable and meritorious service in the outdoor clinics of Freedmen's Hospital, not only during the school term but during the greater part of his summer's vacation. After graduation in June, 1912, he passed the State Board Examination of West Virginia and made the highest average according to the American Medical Association Journal of anyone white or colored in the class of 49. Returning to Washington he entered two competitive examinations for Internships, passed both successfully and accepted the appointment for the Kansas City Old General Hospital where he served for more than a year. Four months after arriving here he went to Topeka and there "cleaned up" the Kansas State Board Examination which was also reported in A. M. A. Journal and also obtained by virtue of his achievement reciprocity to practice in the State of Missouri. Since leaving the hospital he has practiced in this city with Dr. T. C. Unthank, Kansas City's famous surgeon and for him Dr. Fletcher expresses the highest regard and appreciation for the support and kindness he has shown him. Dr. Fletcher is unquestionably prepared both scientifically and practically for any phase of medical practice as has been amply demonstrated during his stay in this city. He has recently sent two patients to the Provident Hospital, one of whom is now convalescing at home after a severe illness; the other, who was operated upon, is recovering nicely. The race is proud of young men with the skill and ability of Dr. Fletcher and there is no doubt but what he is destined to become one of Kansas City's foremost physicians.

K. P. REGIMENT

A muster of the 2nd Reg. U. R. K. of P. together with the Regimental Band will be held at K. of P. Hall, Sunday, March 22nd, at which time a Col., Lt. Col., two Majors and all Officers of Line will be elected. Dress Parade on Paseo at 5:30.

A BURNING SHAME.

There are many crimes which are punished by many severe penalties but possibly no crime is so terrible and far-reaching in its scope as pure indifference. You have in your midst a Colored Shoe Store, a new enterprise; do not be indifferent to its offers. Do not condemn it for the past, as it is now under entirely New Management with a new stock and a new ideal, which has for its keynote Service and Low Prices. Our line of Women's Slippers offers a choice of Patent Leather, Gunmetal, French Kid and Satins; and come in Colonial, Mary Janes and Two Strap Styles with the X-Ray and Tango Boots. Prices from \$2.50 to \$5.00.

Our men's Smart English Lasts in Black and Tan Oxfords and Shoes from one to two dollars cheaper than downtown. Children's good solid Shoes and Easter Novelties in Red, Tan and other rich combinations. If you really want to save money and time call on us and call early so that your wishes may have our closest attention. We earnestly ask an opportunity to furnish your Easter Shoes and guarantee absolute Satisfaction. Give Us A Chance. Capt. Carrion of the City Tennis Club pronounced our fine of Tennis Shoes the best and biggest variety he had ever seen. We advise the players to get in early. Watch our windows opposite Peoples' Drug Store at Corner of 18th and Paseo. 1507 E. 18th St.

H. G. JONES, Mgr.
G. A. PAGE, Prop.

Mr. Fred McCline, 920 E. 21st St., is slightly improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. H. Mock, 3210 E. 19th street, entertained Tuesday evening in honor of Mrs. Norton, of Colorado Springs, and Miss McMillan, of Muskogee, Okla., who are the guests of Miss Hattie Scott, 2838 E. 6th street. The assisting ladies were Mrs. Miss Jackson, Mrs. Carter and Mrs. R. Smith. The house was beautifully decorated.

MORE ABOUT HELL.

William Stitts an International Bible Student Writes Learnedly and Entertainingly Upon This Subject.

To the Editor of the Kansas City Sun:

I have noticed in your paper and in the daily press where a number of ministers and others have been discussing the subject of "Hell" and I beg for space to give my views upon the subject which have been gleaned from diligent research and study. Hell, a condition. It occurs thirty-one times in the Old Testament (Hell) and everywhere Sheol (Hebrew) appears it does not mean a lake of fire and brimstone, which we often use but means man's condition in death. Notice the subject: Thou wilt not leave my soul in Hell (Sheol)—the grave, Acts 2:31; Psalms 16:10. And the same word means the grave thirty-three times and pit twenty times. Notice Psalms 31:17: Let the wicked be ashamed, let them be silent in the grave: Notice—The dead know not anything. Eccl. 9:10: Notice: the New Testament the word Hell in English, the Greek word Hades and the Hebrew word Sheol all have the same meaning. "Thou wilt not leave my soul in Hell" Acts 2:27: is a reference to Christ when he was dead three days. The Greek word "Kolasis" which in English is punishment or cut off from life, and not a life in fire. Matt. 25:46. "For the wages of sin is death" Romans 6:23. (And not life in fire). "The unbelieving and fearful shall have their part in the lake of fire for this is the second death." Notice the Greek word Gehenna; it means in English "hell fire" "Death and Hell" were cast in the lake of fire and this is the second death." Rev. 20:14. "For the soul that sinneth it shall surely die in Adam all die." Eccl. 1:4. The word second death "a destruction of the soul after the life of fire in Hell" For the Saints shall live and the Sinners shall die.

Yours truly,
WM. STITTS.

EBENEZER A. M. E. CHURCH.
Quarterly Meeting will be held at Ebenezer A. M. E. church 17th and Tracy, Sunday, March 22nd, and Rev. W. C. Williams, pastor, expects a large attendance and a glorious service. All are invited.



Rev. Lee H. Mills, D. D., the eloquent and able Divine who has been called to the pastorate of the Highland Avenue Baptist Church of this city.

The above is a likeness of Rev. Lee H. Mills, D. D., recently called to the pastorate of Highland Avenue Baptist Church of this city. Dr. Mills comes to us highly recommended by the leading Baptist ministers of Georgia. Below you will find some of the recommendations of some of these leading divines. We have more but space will not permit us to publish them at this time. These are published solely for the purpose of letting the public in general know the kind of minister we have as pastor.

Macon, Ga., Mar. 3, '14.
Rev. Lee H. Mills, 1915 E. 10th St., Kansas City, Mo.
My dear brother:—Yours to hand, glad to hear from you and to know you were in the West at the post of duty. Also glad to know of your success. I wish for you a continued success, and too, wish you the best of success in your new field of labor. I assure you that you have the best wishes of Georgia for your success. Now as to those who would lay upon you the appellation of a "tramp" preacher, they certainly misrepresent you. I have known you almost to say from your beginning and have never known you to hear that name. You have been pastoring for seventeen years to my knowledge and I do not know the time when you were without a church. And during the time you have been in the ministry you have pastored some of the best churches in Georgia and when you left the state to go West, you left one of our high class churches. Now those who say the mean things about you that I have heard surely do not know the truth about you or they desire to "gore you". Now if you want more evidence of your standing as a minister in our state let us know. We have a convention behind us who will say just what I have already said.

Respectfully,
Your Brother in His Name,
W. R. FORBES,
President Missionary Baptist Convention of Ga.

Philadelphia, Pa.

March 11, 1914.
Rev. Lee H. Mills, D. D., 1915 E. 10th St., Kansas City, Mo.
My beloved friend and brother:—I am informed that you are laboring for the Master in Kansas City, Mo. I pray for your success and sincerely hope you will succeed in your new field of labor. I know of your ability which is unsurpassed as a homiletical pulpit orator and your deportment during your long stay with us as a Christian gentleman was indeed worthy to be commended and your reputation in our city will commend you to any church regardless of standing. I shall be glad to speak or write a word in defense of so worthy a man as you at any time and feel that I would be doing a splendid service for God in commanding you. Now take my advice Dr. and make good and if I can be of any service to you, let me know.

Respectfully yours, in His Name,
CHAS. BLACKWELL,
Pastor Central Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

Macon, Ga., Mar. 14, 1914.

To whom it may concern:
This certifies that Rev. Lee H. Mills is an Ordained Minister of the Baptist denomination and is in good standing. He has had considerable experience in pastoral work and has been successful in his various fields of labor. He is a preacher of ability and presents the truth in a manner that at once wins the attention and impresses the mind. In revival as well as routine pulpit work, he is popular and is in constant demand. Educated at Central City College, over which I preside, I have ample opportunity to study him and form any opinion of him as a minister and a man. I commend him with pleasure and recommend him to any church needing his services.

WM. E. HOLMES,
President Central City College, Macon, Georgia.

Augusta, Ga., Mar. 10, 1914.

To whom it may concern:

This certifies that I have known Rev. Lee H. Mills for fifteen years and during all these years he has been an active pastor in Georgia. He graduated from Central City College during my professorship. He has been Vice-President of the State Convention and has held charges in Macon, Athens and Atlanta. He has traveled much as a pastor evangelist. He pastored when leaving Georgia Shiloh Baptist Church, Atlanta, and also Springfield Church at Crawfordsville, Ga. I take pleasure in stating these facts.

JAS. M. NABUT, A. M. D. D.,
Pastor Springfield Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga., and former Professor of Greek, Central City College, Macon, Ga.

East Macon, Ga., Mar. 11, 1914.

To whom it may concern:
This is to certify that Rev. Lee H. Mills of Atlanta is a minister of exceptional gifts as a pastor and as an evangelist having pastored Hills First Baptist Church, Athens, Ga., and also acceptably in Atlanta for a number of years. I can assure the public that if he should see fit to cast his lot elsewhere that it will be to the deep regret of the people of his recent pastorate in the city of Atlanta. Rev. Mills has held his own in Georgia for more than twelve years as one of Georgia's most successful pastors and we commend him to the confidence of the general public wherever he may chance to cast his lot.

N. B. WRIGHT,
Pastor First Baptist Church, East Macon, Ga.

Macon, Ga., March 12, 1914.

Rev. Lee H. Mills, D. D., Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir and Brother:
The intelligence of you having accepted a call to the Highland Avenue Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo., reached me today and Oh, how sad I am to give you up as an associate in the ministry of the State of Georgia and in convention work and to lose you as President of the Tenth District

and Sunday School work. All the members of both of your churches in Atlanta and Crawfordsville I know will mourn your loss. And poor me, how I'll miss you. I really felt like crying when I read Rev. R. B. Williams' letter today. We were at the minister's union when he broke the news. All the ministers regret to give you up as we realize your worth to our ministry. Well, if they don't treat you right, come back to Georgia. My consolation is that it may be that God wants you in that field of labor. I shall pray for your success and will say to the church they may congratulate themselves upon having secured your services. I am,

Sincerely yours,
REV. WM. BRYANT,
Pastor First Baptist Church, Macon, Ga.

Atlanta, Ga., March 10, 1914.

To whom it may concern:
It becomes a very pleasant duty of mine to write this letter of commendation in honor of my friend and brother, Rev. Lee H. Mills, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga. It affords me great pleasure to say that I have had personal acquaintance with him as a minister of the Gospel for more than fifteen years. We were also classmates in the study of systematic theology in the Atlanta Baptist College under the instruction of Dr. Smith, D. D. L. D. He is the President of the Tenth District Convention and a member of Atlanta Baptist Minister's Union. He is one of no mean ability and our denomination holds him in high esteem. He is in good standing with us and our churches and is hereby commended to the confidence and fellowship of the sister churches wherever Providence may direct him. May the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit rest upon you and him, I am,

Yours in Christ,
REV. P. L. SCRUGGS, D. D.,
Pastor Bethlehem Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.

B. J. KNOX, Reporter.